National Endowment for the Arts

2009 Guide

NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS

A great nation
deserves great art.

The National Endowment for the Arts is a public agency dedicated to supporting excellence in the arts, both new and established; bringing the arts to all Americans; and providing leadership in arts education. Established by Congress in 1965 as an independent agency of the federal government, the Arts Endowment brings great art to all 50 states, including rural areas, inner cities, and military bases.

Table of Contents

About Us 2

National Endowment for the Arts Funding 3

Grants for Arts Projects 4

Literature Fellowships 8

Lifetime Honors 8

National Initiatives 10

Leadership Initiatives 14

NEA Partners 15

Other Arts Endowment Activities 16

Deadlines 17

- Literature Fellowships 17
- Lifetime Honors 17
- Leadership Initiatives 17
- Grants for Arts Projects 17

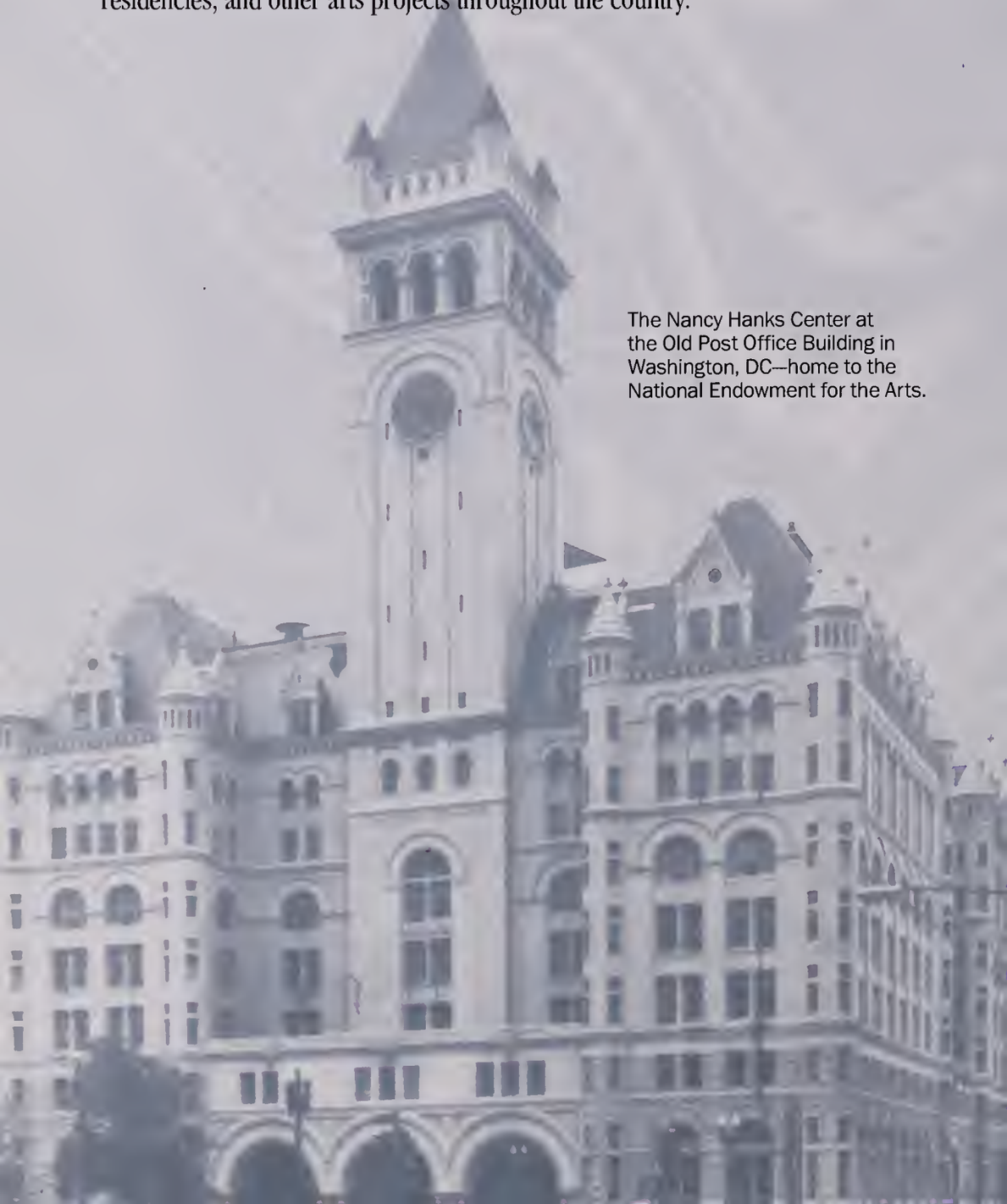
Publications 20

ABOUT US

The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), established by Congress in 1965 as an independent federal agency, is the official arts organization of the United States government. As the largest annual funder of the arts in the country, the NEA is dedicated to supporting excellence in the arts, both new and established; bringing the arts to all Americans; and providing leadership in arts education. Through its grants and programs, the NEA brings great art to all 50 states and six U.S. jurisdictions, including rural areas, inner cities, and military bases.

The NEA awards more than $100 million annually, investing in every state. The Arts Endowment has played a substantial role in the development of folk arts, dance, theater, literature, music, and other arts that Americans now enjoy.

Since its establishment, the NEA has awarded more than 126,000 grants, including early support for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial design competition, the Sundance Film Festival, Spoleto Festival USA, PBS's *Great Performances* series, and the American Film Institute. For more than four decades, the Arts Endowment has encouraged creativity through support of performances, exhibitions, festivals, artist residencies, and other arts projects throughout the country.



The Nancy Hanks Center at the Old Post Office Building in Washington, DC—home to the National Endowment for the Arts.

National Endowment for the Arts Funding

The National Endowment for the Arts awards matching grants to nonprofit organizations. In addition, it awards non-matching individual fellowships in literature and honorary fellowships in jazz, the folk and traditional arts, and opera. Forty percent of the Arts Endowment's funds go to the 56 state and jurisdictional arts agencies and the six regional arts organizations in support of arts projects in thousands of communities across the country.

All applications to the Arts Endowment are reviewed on the basis of artistic excellence and artistic merit. Applications generally receive three levels of review. First, they are reviewed by independent, national panels of artists and other arts experts. Panels make recommendations that are forwarded to the National Council on the Arts.

The National Council on the Arts, the Arts Endowment's advisory body, comprises nationally and internationally renowned artists, distinguished scholars, and arts patrons appointed by the President, and members of Congress. The council reviews and makes recommendations on the applications. Those recommendations for funding are sent to the chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. The chairman reviews those applications and makes the final decision on all grant awards.

The following information provides an overview of our funding categories and other activities. Deadlines for funding opportunities are found in the back of this guide. For details and our application guidelines, please visit our Web site at **www.arts.gov.**

Corey Scott-Gilbert from Alonzo King's Lines Ballet and Shi Yanguo from Shaolin Temple USA in the joint-company performance of *Long River High Sky* at France's Montpellier Dance Festival through the USArtists International program, administered by regional arts organization Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation with support from the NEA.
Photo by Marty Sohl

Cherise Booth and Russell Hornsby in New York-based Signature Theatre's production of August Wilson's *King Hedley II*, supported by an NEA Access to Artistic Excellence grant.
Photo by Carol Rosegg

GRANTS FOR ARTS PROJECTS

Grants for Arts Projects support exemplary projects in artist communities, dance, design, folk and traditional arts, literature, local arts agencies, media arts, museums, music, musical theater, opera, presenting (including multidisciplinary art forms), theater, and visual arts.

Nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organizations; units of state or local government; and federally recognized tribal communities or tribes may apply. Applicants may be arts organizations, local arts agencies, arts service organizations, local education agencies (school districts), and other organizations that can help advance the goals of the Arts Endowment.

To be eligible, an applicant organization must:

- Be nonprofit, tax-exempt.
- Have a three-year history of programming.
- Meet reporting requirements on any previous Arts Endowment awards.

Generally, an organization is limited to one application per year under Grants for Arts Projects. Depending on the particular category, limited exceptions may exist for consortium projects and parent organizations such as universities or cultural complexes that apply on behalf of separately identifiable and independent components.

Assistance is not available for general operating or seasonal support; the creation of new organizations; the construction, purchase, or renovation of facilities; or directly for individual elementary or secondary schools—charter, private, or public.

The Grants for Arts Projects guidelines outline support that is available in the following categories:

Access to Artistic Excellence

This category encourages and supports artistic creativity, preserves our diverse cultural heritage, and makes the arts more widely available in communities throughout the country. Typical projects include the commissioning and development of new work, the presentation of performances or exhibitions at home or on tour, the documentation and preservation of significant art works or cultural traditions, the publication and dissemination of work important to the field, and the professional training of artists. The Arts Endowment is particularly interested in projects that reach and involve new audiences.

Grants generally range from $5,000 to $100,000.

Native-American dancers perform at the Living Traditions Festival in Salt Lake City, Utah, supported by an NEA Challenge America grant.
Photo courtesy Salt Lake City Arts Council

Challenge America: Reaching Every Community Fast-Track Review Grants

These grants enable organizations, particularly those that are small or mid-sized, to extend the reach of the arts to underserved populations—those whose opportunities to experience the arts are limited by geography, ethnicity, economics, or disability. An expedited application review allows applicants to learn whether they have been recommended for a grant more quickly than in the Arts Endowment's other categories.

In this category the focus is on simple, straightforward local projects that involve experienced professional artists and arts professionals. Projects may include festivals, exhibits, readings, performances, screenings, or broadcasts that feature guest artists in community settings; the creation of professionally directed public arts projects such as murals, sculptures, or environmental art; cultural district revitalization; cultural tourism; and planning for the redesign of existing spaces for cultural activities.

All grants are for $10,000.

Learning in the Arts for Children and Youth

This category funds projects that help children and youth acquire knowledge and understanding of and skills in the arts. Projects must provide participatory learning and engage students with skilled artists, teachers, and excellent art. They may take place in school-based or community-based settings. The focus is on children and youth in the general age range of five through 18 years old.

All projects must include the following components: 1) the opportunity for students and their teachers to experience exemplary works of art, in live form wherever possible; 2) study of the art experienced, including the acquisition of skills for practicing the art form where appropriate; 3) the performance/making of art within the discipline(s) studied; and 4) assessment of student learning according to national or state arts education standards.

Grants generally range from $5,000 to $100,000.

Aubree Mease and Will Hagestad marbling paper as part of the Minnesota Center for Book Arts' By Design Teen Artist program, supported by an NEA Learning in the Arts grant.
Photo by Emma Allen

LITERATURE FELLOWSHIPS

Through NEA Literature Fellowships awarded to published creative writers and translators of exceptional talent, the Arts Endowment advances its goal of encouraging and supporting artistic excellence and preserving our cultural heritage. NEA Literature Fellowships in creative writing enable recipients to set aside time for writing, research, travel, and general career advancement. These non-matching grants are for $25,000. This program operates on a two-year cycle with fellowships in prose available one year and fellowships in poetry available the next.

NEA Literature Fellowship applications for creative writing are evaluated through a process of anonymous manuscript review under the sole criteria of artistic excellence and merit. Panelists do not know the identities of the writers, their publishing histories, academic achievements, or previous awards.

NEA Literature Fellowships also are given for translation projects, enabling recipients to translate works of prose, poetry, or drama from other languages into English. The art of literary translation has made available to the American public some of the most important writing in the world, from Homer to Roberto Bolaño. Non-matching grants are awarded depending upon the artistic excellence and merit of the project, in the amounts of $12,500 or $25,000.

The NEA Literature Fellowships are the only competitive, non-nominated awards that the Arts Endowment gives to individual artists.

LIFETIME HONORS

On behalf of the American people, the federal government recognizes outstanding achievement in the arts through the National Medal of Arts, a Presidential award; NEA Jazz Masters Fellowships; NEA National Heritage Fellowships; and NEA Opera Honors. Information on nominating candidates for these awards can be found on the NEA Web site at **www.arts.gov.**

National Medal of Arts

The National Medal of Arts is the highest award given to artists and arts patrons by the federal government. It is awarded by the President of the United States to individuals or groups who are deserving of special recognition by reason of their outstanding contributions to the excellence, growth, support, and availability of the arts in the United States. Annually, a vast number of nominations are submitted from citizens across the country for consideration by the National Council on the Arts, which in turn submits its recommendations to the White House.

Leontyne Price, Carlisle Floyd, and Richard Gaddes, three of the inaugural class of NEA Opera Honors recipients.
Photo by Henry Grossman

NEA Jazz Masters Fellowships

NEA Jazz Masters Fellowships are the highest honors that our government bestows upon jazz musicians. These fellowships are given in recognition of those individuals who have made significant contributions to the art of jazz. Non-matching fellowships of $25,000 each are awarded annually on the basis of nominations. The Arts Endowment honors a wide range of styles with awards given in various categories. In addition, the A. B. Spellman NEA Jazz Masters Award for Jazz Advocacy is given to an individual who has made a major contribution to the appreciation, knowledge, and advancement of jazz, such as a writer, patron, or presenter.

NEA National Heritage Fellowships

NEA National Heritage Fellowships recognize the recipients' artistic excellence and accomplishments, and support their continuing contributions to America's folk and traditional arts. As part of its efforts to honor and preserve our nation's diverse cultural heritage, the National Endowment for the Arts annually awards non-matching fellowships of $25,000 each on the basis of nominations. In addition, the Bess Lomax Hawes NEA National Heritage Award is presented to an individual who has made a major contribution to the excellence, vitality, and public appreciation of the folk and traditional arts through teaching, collecting, advocacy, or preservation work.

NEA Opera Honors

The NEA Opera Honors, a new award authorized by Congress in 2008, recognize individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to opera in the United States. This honor represents the highest recognition that our nation bestows in opera. Non-matching fellowships of $25,000 each are awarded annually on the basis of nominations. In addition to extraordinary performers and interpreters who have made a lasting impact in the field, also eligible are individuals whose mastery has advanced the knowledge and appreciation of opera for the general public.

NATIONAL INITIATIVES

National Initiatives are model programs of indisputable artistic merit and broad national reach. Through these initiatives, the American people have the opportunity to celebrate American creativity and experience the best of its culture.

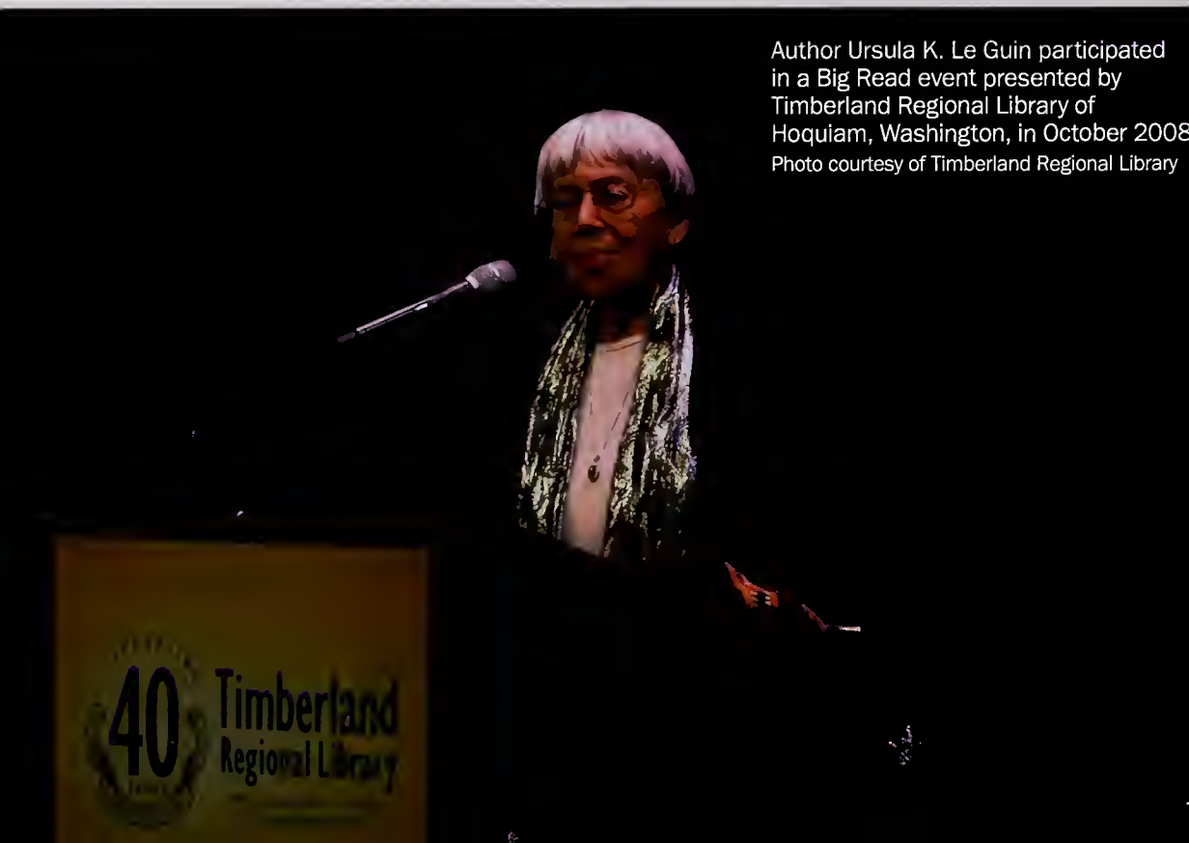
American Masterpieces: Three Centuries of Artistic Genius is a major initiative to acquaint Americans with the best of their cultural and artistic legacy. Through American Masterpieces, the NEA sponsors performances, exhibitions, tours, and educational programs across different art forms that reach large and small communities in all 50 states.

Arts education activities make up a substantial portion of the initiative, creating substantial and engaging in-school programs and bringing an unprecedented number of students to the exhibitions, presentations, and performances.

Thus far, grants have been awarded in choral and chamber music, dance, musical theater, presenting, and visual arts for touring, performances, presentations, and exhibitions. More information can be found on the NEA Web site at **www.arts.gov**.

The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts designed to restore reading to the center of American culture. The NEA presents The Big Read in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and in cooperation with Arts Midwest. The Big Read brings together partners across the country to encourage reading for pleasure and enlightenment.

The Big Read gives communities the opportunity to come together to read, discuss, and celebrate literature. This initiative supports innovative reading programs in selected communities, including expansive outreach, broadcast and print publicity campaigns, engaging educational resources for discussing The Big Read titles, and an extensive Web site offering comprehensive information about the authors



Author Ursula K. Le Guin participated in a Big Read event presented by Timberland Regional Library of Hoquiam, Washington, in October 2008
Photo courtesy of Timberland Regional Library

NEA Jazz Master Tom McIntosh takes the stage with the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra for the 2009 awards ceremony and concert in New York City.
Photo by Tom Pich

and their works. To date, the NEA has given more than 500 grants to support local Big Read projects. Grantees selected for the September 2009–June 2010 programming cycle will read one of 30 selections from American or world literature.

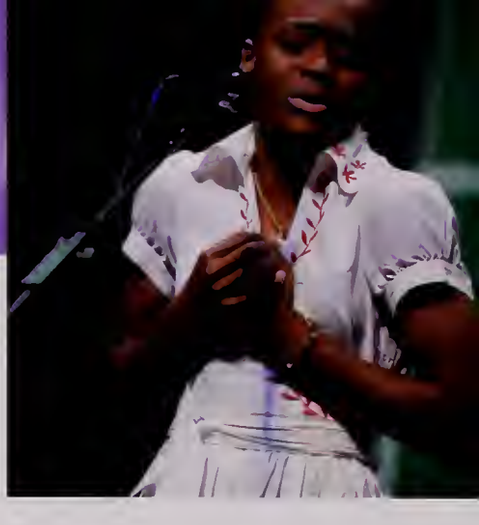
In 2007, the NEA created American Literary Landmarks, a new component of The Big Read, to celebrate great American poets and the nation's historic poetry sites. In partnership with the Poetry Foundation, the NEA provided these sites with grants to support programming, as well as educational and promotional materials. The pilot initiative featured three poets: Emily Dickinson, Robinson Jeffers, and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. Any organization applying for the 2009–2010 grant cycle may choose one of these poets for its Big Read.

Support for The Big Read is provided by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. The Big Read in the Pacific Northwest is also supported, in part, by a grant from the Paul G. Allen Family Foundation. Educational materials for American Literary Landmarks sites are made possible through the generous support of the Poetry Foundation. Transportation for The Big Read is provided by Ford.

For more information about The Big Read and upcoming application deadlines please visit **www.NEABigRead.org**.

The Arts Endowment continues to expand the reach of its **NEA Jazz Masters** program by broadening public recognition of the now 106 NEA Jazz Masters, enhancing the public's knowledge of jazz, and placing a more significant spotlight on America's jazz legends through **NEA Jazz Masters Live**, a presenting program of performances and residencies, administered by Arts Midwest.

Another component of the initiative, **NEA Jazz in the Schools**, is a dedicated arts education component in jazz that was created in partnership with Jazz at Lincoln Center and supported with a grant from the Verizon Foundation. This educational resource for high school teachers of social studies, U.S. history, and music, includes a five-unit, Web-based curriculum and DVD toolkit that explores jazz as an indigenous American art form and as a means to understand U.S. history (more information can be found at **www.neajazzintheschools.org**). Nearly eight million students have learned about jazz from the toolkit and online curriculum. Broadcasting programming was created as part of the NEA Jazz Masters program, such as *Jazz Moments*, radio shorts on NEA Jazz Masters for broadcast on SIRIUS XM Radio. Since 2005, the Arts Endowment also has partnered with *Legends of Jazz*, a weekly public television series dedicated to legendary jazz artists and often highlighting NEA Jazz Masters. To find out more about these components, visit **www.neajazzmasters.org**.



2008 Poetry Out Loud national champion Shawntay A. Henry of Charlotte Amalie High School in the United States Virgin Islands.
Photo by James Kegley

NEA Arts Journalism Institutes

In June 2004, the NEA established three **NEA Arts Journalism Institutes** to address a chronic problem throughout the country: the lack of quality arts criticism in the media. The institutes' focus is on improving arts criticism in classical music and opera, theater and musical theater, and dance. In 2009, the NEA will begin offering an institute for visual arts journalists.

Arts journalists working for print, broadcast, or Internet outlets located mostly outside the country's largest media markets are eligible to apply. Each institute hosts up to 25 fellows for a two- or three-week fellowship that includes performances, behind-the-scenes tours, and writer workshops. Institutes for dance critics will be hosted by the American Dance Festival at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina; for classical music and opera critics at Columbia University in New York City; and for theater and musical theater critics at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles.

The new visual arts institute, scheduled for June 2009, will be based at American University in Washington, DC, and be run in cooperation with the university and the U.S. Department of State. Of the 20 fellows chosen to participate, half will be from foreign countries.

OPERATION HOMECOMING

Beginning in 2008, **Operation Homecoming**, an NEA national initiative started in 2004, is supporting approximately 25 multiweek writing workshops and related literary programming for U.S. troops, veterans, and their families, enabling them to write about their wartime experiences. The workshops will take place at Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense health facilities and affiliated centers across the country. Participants will be able to access online resources and will receive materials such as an educational guide featuring distinguished wartime writing by veterans and civilians. Where possible, local literary organizations will take part in programming. Operation Homecoming is presented in coordination with the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Southern Arts Federation. Operation Homecoming is made possible by The Boeing Company. For more information, visit **www.operationhomecoming.org**.

POETRY OUT LOUD NATIONAL RECITATION CONTEST

Presented in partnership with the Poetry Foundation and the state arts agencies, **Poetry Out Loud: National Recitation Contest** is a national arts education program for high school students that encourages the study of great poetry by offering educational materials and a dynamic recitation competition in all 50 states, Washington, DC, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Poetry Out Loud uses a pyramid structure. Beginning at the classroom level, winners advance to the school-wide competition, then to the state finals, and ultimately to the national finals in Washington, DC.

Each winner at the state level receives $200 and an all-expenses-paid trip to Washington to compete for the national championship. The state winner's school

receives a $500 stipend for the purchase of poetry materials. A runner-up in each state receives $100, with $200 for his or her school library. A total of $50,000 in scholarships and school stipends are awarded at the national finals.

Any school wishing to participate should contact its state arts agency for more information on the program. Visit **www.poetryoutloud.org** for a list of contacts. The Web site also features standards-based educational materials, an online anthology of 600 poems, as well as tips on hosting a school contest.

Shakespeare in American Communities was the first NEA National Initiative, launched in 2003, and has since become the largest tour of Shakespeare in American history. It began as a nationwide tour of seven professional theater companies, including performances at 18 military bases through an unprecedented partnership with the Department of Defense. The next phase of the initiative, **Shakespeare for a New Generation**, began in 2004 and focuses more on bringing Shakespeare to the next generation of Americans.

Shakespeare for a New Generation provides professional Shakespeare performances and educational programs to high school and middle school students. In the first five years of Shakespeare for a New Generation, 168 grants have been awarded to theater companies, resulting in approximately 5,400 performances seen by more than 1.2 million students and their families. The initiative has reached more than 2,300 communities in all 50 states, enabling students from more than 3,600 schools to see a professional production of Shakespeare. Teachers are benefiting from a free multimedia educational toolkit created by the Arts Endowment; almost 65,000 copies have been distributed, benefiting more than 25 million students. More information can be found at **www.shakespeareinamericancommunties.org**.

Teresa Castracane as Hermione and Lindsey Haynes as Perdita in the Baltimore Shakespeare Festival's production of *The Winter's Tale*, part of NEA's Shakespeare for a New Generation initative.
Photo by James Kinstle, courtesy of Baltimore Shakespeare Festival

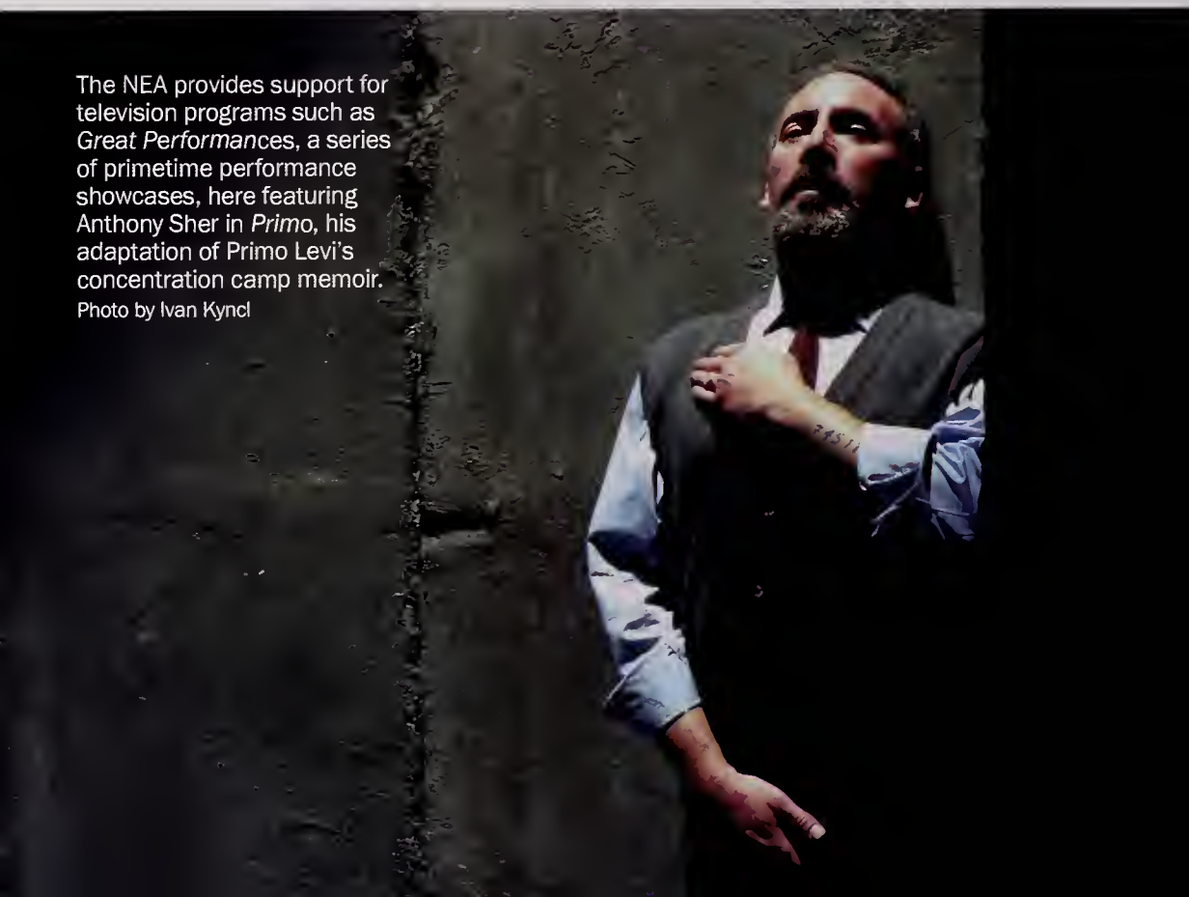
LEADERSHIP INITIATIVES

The Arts Endowment takes an active role in developing and carrying out hallmark projects of national significance in the arts. The following are examples of initiatives the NEA undertakes:

The Arts on Radio and Television supports projects for radio and television arts programs that are intended for national broadcast. Through this category the National Endowment for the Arts seeks to make the excellence and diversity of the arts widely available to the American public. Grants generally range from $10,000 to $200,000.

The Mayors' Institute on City Design® is an Arts Endowment leadership initiative established in 1986 that provides an opportunity for mayors and design professionals to work together to address civic design and development issues related to their respective cities. The success of the Mayors' Institute led to the creation in 2004 of the **Governors' Institute on Regional Design.** This initiative brings governors and design professionals together to discuss regional design issues, such as suburban sprawl created by regional urban growth.

The Open World Cultural Leaders Program is an initiative supported by a partnership between the NEA and the Open World Leadership Center, an independent legislative branch agency located at the Library of Congress. The initiative provides in-depth residency activities for cultural representatives from Russia, including jazz musicians and educators, writers, and folk and traditional artists. Past residencies have taken place at the Brubeck Institute in Stockton, California; the Lionel Hampton Center in Moscow, Idaho; the International Writing Program at the University of Iowa in Iowa City; and the University of Mississippi in Oxford.



The NEA provides support for television programs such as *Great Performances*, a series of primetime performance showcases, here featuring Anthony Sher in *Primo*, his adaptation of Primo Levi's concentration camp memoir.
Photo by Ivan Kyncl

NEA PARTNERS

The Fisk Jubilee Singers, 2008 Medal of Arts recipients, performed a statewide tour in 2007 with support from the Tennessee Arts Commission, a partner of the NEA.
Photo by Nicole Kaklis

State & Regional

In partnership with the 56 state and jurisdictional arts agencies and six regional arts organizations, the National Endowment for the Arts provides federal support for projects that benefit local communities. The Partnership Agreements for the state arts agencies provide funds to address priorities identified at the state level as well as funds for various components that target specific Arts Endowment objectives. The regional arts organizations, each representing a geographic grouping of states, assist the Arts Endowment in distributing funds and programs nationally through touring and other activities responsive to the needs of the region.

Federal Partnerships

The NEA works with more than 20 other federal agencies on projects that provide opportunities for thousands of Americans to experience quality arts programming throughout the country. These joint projects help to expand the reach and impact of federal arts dollars, and provide a national model for the types of partnerships the NEA encourages at the state and local levels. These partnerships include initiatives with agencies such as the Department of Education and the Department of Defense.

International

The National Endowment for the Arts collaborates with other funders to bring the benefits of international exchange to arts organizations, artists, and audiences nationwide. The Arts Endowment's support of international activities showcases U.S. arts abroad and broadens the scope of experience of American artists. International partnerships help increase worldwide recognition of the excellence, diversity, and vitality of the arts of the United States, and help American artists and arts organizations develop international ties that strengthen the many art forms of the United States.

Milwaukee Art Museum and the National Gallery of Art partnered to present a touring exhibit of 50 paintings by Dutch master Jan Lievens, including *Fighting Cardplayers and Death*, ca. 1638, indemnified by the Arts and Artifacts Indemnity Program, administered by the NEA.
Photo courtesy of Milwaukee Art Museum, Private Collection

Other Arts Endowment Activities

The Office for AccessAbility was established in 1976 as the advocacy and technical assistance arm of the Arts Endowment for people with disabilities, older Americans, veterans, and people living in institutions. The office works in myriad ways to assist the Arts Endowment and its grantees in making arts programs more available to underserved segments of our citizenry.

Through the ***Arts and Artifacts Indemnity Act of 1975*** (20 U.S.C. 971), which is administered by the Arts Endowment, the agency provides insurance coverage for objects in international and, as of 2008, domestic exhibitions. To date, the program has indemnified 900 exhibitions, saving the organizers $230 million in insurance premiums. The authorized limit for indemnified exhibitions at any one time is $10 billion under the Arts and Artifacts Indemnity Program.

Since 2002, the National Endowment for the Arts has been conducting **grant workshops** across the country to provide valuable guidance on how local arts organizations can improve their chances of winning a competitive grant from the NEA. The workshops are facilitated with organizational help from state arts agencies. The goal of the workshops is to extend federal support of the arts into smaller communities and more rural areas that might not normally apply for NEA grants.

DEADLINES

*NOTE: **Grants.gov** is required for all applicants to the NEA. Before you can apply, you must be registered with grants.gov. Learn more about grants.gov by visiting our Web site at **www.arts.gov** and register now.*

Literature Fellowships

Creative Writing Fellowships/Fiction and Creative Nonfiction

Application Deadline: March 5, 2009

Earliest Project Start Date: January 1, 2010

Translation Projects

Application Deadline: January 9, 2009

Earliest Project Start Date: November 1, 2009

For information, contact the Literature staff at *litfellowships@arts.gov* or 202/682-5034.

Lifetime Honors

National Medal of Arts

Nomination Deadline: March 17, 2009

Only online nominations accepted

For information, contact the staff at 202/682-5434.

NEA Jazz Masters Fellowships

Nomination Deadline: October 9, 2009

For information, contact the Music staff at *vonschuttenbach@arts.gov* or 202/682-5711.

NEA National Heritage Fellowships

Nomination Deadline: October 1, 2009

For information, contact the Folk & Traditional Arts staff at *schielec@arts.gov* or 202/682-5587.

NEA Opera Honors

Nomination Deadline: November 30, 2009

For information, contact the Opera staff at *paulg@arts.gov* or 202/682-5600.

Leadership Initiatives

The Arts on Radio and Television

Application Deadline: September 3, 2009

Earliest Project Start Date: May 1, 2010

For information, contact the Media Arts staff at *welshl@arts.gov* or 202/682-5738.

Grants for Arts Projects

Challenge America: Reaching Every Community Fast-Track Review Grants

Application Deadline: May 28, 2009

Earliest Project Start Date: January 1, 2010

For information, contact the staff at *fasttrack@arts.gov* or 202/682-5700.

Learning in the Arts for Children and Youth

Application Deadline: June 11, 2009

Earliest Project Start Date: June 1, 2010

For information, contact the Learning in the Arts staff for the field/discipline below that is most appropriate for your project:

Dance, Music, Opera
brandenburg@arts.gov or 202/682-5044

Literature, Musical Theater, Theater
daughern@arts.gov or 202/682-5521

Folk & Traditional Arts, Presenting (including multidisciplinary projects)
liut@arts.gov or 202/682-5690

Design, Local Arts Agencies, Media Arts, Museums, Visual Arts
edwardsl@arts.gov or 202/682-5704

Grants for Arts Projects

*NOTE: **Grants.gov** is required for all applicants to the NEA. Before you can apply, you must be registered with grants.gov. Learn more about grants.gov by visiting our Web site at **www.arts.gov** and register now.*

Access to Artistic Excellence

There are two application deadlines. The types of projects eligible under each vary according to the field/discipline of the project as outlined below. For further information, contact the staff for the appropriate field/discipline or view the NEA Web site at **www.arts.gov.**

Field/Discipline	**Application Deadline: March 12, 2009** Earliest Project Start Date: January 1, 2010	**Application Deadline: August 13, 2009** Earliest Project Start Date: June 1, 2010
Artist Communities *paulg@arts.gov* or 202/682-5600	ALL Artist Communities projects	N/A
Dance *ottlongj@arts.gov* or 202/682-5739, *mascellij@arts.gov* or 202/682-5656	Commissions, Regional/ National Tours, Home Performances, Presentations, Residencies, Services to the Field	Outreach, Preservation, Media and Technology
Design *brennanm@arts.gov* or 202/682-5703	Innovation: Activities that advance, reform, or disseminate the latest design techniques, including, among others, competitions, commissions, exhibitions, publications, workshops, and conferences	Stewardship: Activities that protect, share, or celebrate our design heritage, including, among others, historic preservation, education and outreach, exhibitions, publications, workshops, and conferences
Folk & Traditional Arts *mansfieldw@arts.gov* or 202/682-5678, *bergeyb@ arts.gov* or 202/682-5726	Presentation of Living Cultural Heritage, Touring, Media	Heritage, Preservation, Outreach, Services to the Field, State or Regional Infrastructure Support
Literature *stollsa@arts.gov* or 202/682-5771	Literary Publishing	Audience Development, Professional Development
Local Arts Agencies *wallsd@arts.gov* or 202/682-5586	Services to the Field: Activities such as Marketing, Audience Development, Cultural Planning, Professional Development Subgranting for Service Activities	Performing Arts Events/ Readings/Screenings/ Broadcasts/Visual Arts Exhibitions, Artist Residencies/Commissions, Documentation/Conservation of Public and Monumental Art Subgranting for Programming Activities

Field/Discipline	Application Deadline: March 12, 2009 Earliest Project Start Date: January 1, 2010	Application Deadline: August 13, 2009 Earliest Project Start Date: June 1, 2010
Media Arts: Film/Radio/ Television ***smithm@arts.gov*** **or 202/682-5742**	Exhibition, Film/Video Festivals, Distribution, Preservation	Workshops/Residencies/ Conferences, Facilities Access, Production, Publications, Services to the Field
Museums ***bancroftd@arts.gov*** **or 202/682-5576**	Special Exhibitions, Residencies, Commissions, Public Art, Services to the Field	Conservation, Documentation, Collections, Public Programs
Music Organizations with names that begin A through L ***burnsc@arts.gov*** **or 202/682-5590** Organizations with names that begin M through Z ***nykyfora@arts.gov*** **or 202/682-5487** Jazz projects ***vonschuttenbach@arts.gov*** **or 202/682-5711**	Performances, Presentations, Commissions, Residencies, Professional Development, Services to the Field	Domestic Touring, Outreach, Recordings, Preservation, Technology
Musical Theater ***denegree@arts.gov* or 202/682-5509,** ***lanouxc@arts.gov*** **or 202/682-5020**	Creation of New Work, 2009–10 Musical Theater Production	2010-11 Musical Theater Production, Training, Services to the Field
Opera ***paulg@arts.gov*** **or 202/682-5600**	ALL Opera Projects	N/A
Presenting ***lims@arts.gov*** **or 202/682-5658**	Activities for Underserved Communities, Outdoor Festivals and Programs	Training for Artists, Creation, Commissioning, Touring, Presentation, Residencies, Services to Artists and Arts Organizations, Preservation
Theater ***denegree@arts.gov*** **or 202/682-5509,** ***lanouxc@arts.gov*** **or 202/682-5020**	Creation of New Work, 2009–10 Theater Production	2010–11 Theater Production, Training, Services to the Field
Visual Arts ***clarkw@arts.gov*** **or 202/682-5555**	Exhibitions, Residencies, Publications, Commissions, Public Art	Conservation, Documentation, Services to the Field, Public Programs

PUBLICATIONS

In order to better communicate to the public the exemplary work the NEA supports and provides, the Communications Office works with other agency offices to create publications, free to the public, that highlight successful projects and programs. Additionally, the Office of Research and Analysis issues periodic research reports and briefs on significant topics affecting artists and arts organizations. All of these publications can be ordered (or PDFs of them can be viewed) on the NEA Web site, **www.arts.gov.** A few of our most popular publications are listed below.

General

2007 Annual Report

Presents profiles of some of the outstanding grants awarded in Fiscal Year 2007. Two organizations from every state that have received support from the National Endowment for the Arts are profiled, including photos and descriptions of their projects. In addition, there are features on National Initiatives, State and Regional Partnerships, Lifetime Honors, and Literature Fellowships, and a financial summary for the year. (2008)

NEA Jazz Masters

Profiles NEA Jazz Masters from 1982 to 2008 with brief biographies and selected discographies for all honorees. Includes a brief history of NEA's creation of the Jazz Masters program and an overview of the newly expanded program. Also included is an hour-long audio CD of NEA-produced *Jazz Moments*, radio shorts of interviews with NEA Jazz Masters. (2008)

Shakespeare in American Communities

Provides information on the Shakespeare in American Communities initiative, including a brief overview of the program, a list of all current theater companies participating in the program (as well as a map of the companies), all the cities served, and a few examples of successful productions. (2008)

Big Read Catalogue

Provides information on the books to be featured in the NEA's Big Read initiative, including brief book and author descriptions and information on themes, film adaptations, performance possibilities, and accessibility materials. Information on how to apply to the program is also included. (2008)

NEA National Heritage Fellowships: 25th Anniversary

Profiles many of the NEA National Heritage Fellowship recipients to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the award program. In all, 70 Fellows are profiled, including the eight Bess Lomax Hawes recipients. Also included is the NEA National Heritage Fellowships DVD-ROM. (2007)

How the United States Funds the Arts

This report provides a comprehensive overview of the diverse network of public and private funders that directly and indirectly support the arts in the U.S. It explains the role of the National Endowment for the Arts and other public partners at the federal, state, and local levels as well as that of private partners, such as foundations, corporations, and individuals. (2007)

NEA Literature Fellowships: 40 Years of Supporting American Writers

Includes a list of all the writers and translators who have received the award from 1966-2006, as well as a brief history of the fellowship program, sidebars highlighting some of the NEA Literature Fellows, and a section on NEA Literature Fellows who have received other national awards and honors. (2006)

Imagine! Introducing Your Child to the Arts

This reprint of the 1997 NEA publication revises and updates the previous edition's material on introducing children to the arts. Made for parents, the publication includes activities and suggestions in literature, dance, music, theater, visual arts, folk arts, and media arts aimed specifically at children ages 3-8 years old. Includes pull-out guide of arts activities. (2004)

Research

Artists in the Workforce: 1990-2005

This report is the first nationwide look at artists' demographic and employment patterns in the 21st century, gathering new statistics from the U.S. Census Bureau to provide a comprehensive overview of this workforce segment and its maturation over the past 30 years, along with detailed information on specific artist occupations. (2008)

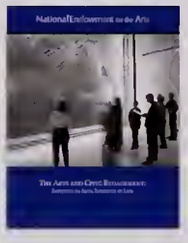
All America's a Stage: Growth and Challenges in Nonprofit Theater

This report examines developments in the growth, distribution, and finances of America's nonprofit theater system since 1990. Nearly 2,000 nonprofit theaters were analyzed for the study. While the research indicates broad growth and generally positive fiscal health, it also reveals decreasing attendance rates and vulnerability during economic downturns. (2008)

To Read or Not To Read: A Question of National Consequence

This report is a new and comprehensive analysis of reading patterns of children, teenagers, and adults in the United States, assembling data on reading trends from more than 40 sources, including federal agencies, universities, foundations, and associations. (2007)

The Arts and Civic Engagement: Involved in Arts, Involved in Life



This research paper explores the compelling link between arts participation and broader civic and community involvement, as measured by the NEA's Survey of Public Participation in the Arts. The report also reveals that young adults show declines in participation rates for most arts and civic categories. (2006)

Reading at Risk: A Survey of Literary Reading in America, Executive Summary

An executive summary of the research report that extrapolates and interprets data on literary reading from the literature segment of the Survey of Public Participation in the Arts, conducted by the Census Bureau in 2002 at the NEA's request, and comparing the data with results from similar surveys carried out in 1982 and 1992. (2004)

This publication is published by:
National Endowment for the Arts
Office of Communications
Victoria Hutter, Acting Director
Don Ball, Publications Manager/Editor

Designed by:
Fletcher Design, Inc./Washington, DC

Voice/TTY:
202/682-5496
For individuals who are deaf or hard-of-hearing.

Individuals who do not use conventional print may contact the Arts Endowment's Office for AccessAbility to obtain this publication in an alternate format. Telephone: 202/682-5532

National Endowment for the Arts
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20506-0001
202/682-5400

Additional copies of this publication can be ordered free of charge on the NEA Web site: **www.arts.gov.**

This publication was printed on recycled paper.

Information current as of January 2009.

Front Cover: Teresa Wakim portrays Flore in Boston Early Music Festival's production of the French Baroque opera *Psyché*, supported by an NEA grant.
Photo by André Constantini

Back Cover: The entrance to the NEA-supported *Magritte and Contemporary Art: The Treachery of Images* exhibition at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, gallery space designed by California artist John Baldessari.
Photo courtesy of Museum Associates/LACMA

A Great Nation Deserves Great Art.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20506-0001
202/682-5400
www.arts.gov